

FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

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PROGRAM Fulton Lewis, III

STATION WGMS Radio and various stations throughout the country

DATE January 6:30 PM

CITY Washington, DC

CHARGE BY CONGRESSMAN LIPSCOMB

CPYRGHT

LEWIS: "Late this afternoon, California Republican Congressman Glenard Lipscomb charged that the Johnson Administration has falsely implied that all American intelligence agencies have agreed to removing hundreds of items from a list of commodities barred for export to Communist countries.

"Congressman Lipscomb said he has checked with the heads of four military intelligence agencies, and that each has reported that they have not been consulted on the matter at all.

"A Commerce Department official here did not dispute Lipscomb's contention saying that it is assumed that the official Defense Department approval of removing the items from the ban list reflected the views Defense Secretary McNamara, and not his subordinate agencies.

"Lipscomb cites a Commerce Department statement released when about 400 items were removed from the control list last October by Presidential decree. The statement said the Department, before acting, had consulted with other government departments, including the Defense Department, and the intelligent community, the latter presumably referring to the CIA.

"The Congressman said he then wrote to the Navy, Air Force, Army, and Defense Department intelligence agencies to ask whether they had, in fact, been consulted.

"Congressman Lipscomb concluded, quote, 'Each of the replies states that the Administration did not consult with our military intelligence experts.'"